

This is excerpted from the *New York State Council on the Arts Annual Report 1969-1970*.



A Summary of Council Activities 1960-69

1960-61

◇New York State Senator MacNeil Mitchell and Assembly members Dorothy Bell Lawrence and Bentley Kassal sponsor legislation with Governor Rockefeller's backing to study how to encourage "participation in and appreciation of the arts." ◇The State Senate and Assembly act to create the Council as a temporary commission with a study grant of \$50,000, charged with making recommendations for such encouragement. ◇

Governor Rockefeller appoints as members of the Council Reginald Alien, Cass Canfield, Angus Duncan, Theodore M. Hancock, Mrs. W. Averell Harriman, Wallace K. Harrison, Helen Hayes, Louis dark Jones, David M. Keiser, Alfred). Manuti, Richard B. K. McLanathan, Richard Rodgers, and Lewis A. Swyer, with Seymour H. Knox as chairman and Henry Allen Moe as vice-chairman. Laurance Roberts is named executive director of the Council.

Council surveys New York State cultural resources and proposes a program of future action to the Legislature which would disseminate cultural events throughout the State and expand audiences for the arts.



1961-62

State Legislature appropriates \$450,000 for Council staff and program.

John H. MacFadyen succeeds Laurence Roberts as executive director. William Hull is appointed assistant director.

Council organizes meetings in twenty-five New York State communities to explore local cultural needs.

Binghamton conference investigates activities and potential of community arts councils.

Council-sponsored workshop at Suffolk Museum deals with problems of display and conservation of historic architectural materials.

Touring Program initiated. Funds awarded to Phoenix Theatre, New York City Center Opera Company, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, New York City Ballet, and Rochester Philharmonic. Leonard Bernstein conducts the New York Philharmonic before an audience of 7,000 schoolchildren in Troy.

Traveling Exhibitions program begins with seven American Federation of Arts exhibitions touring New York State under Council sponsorship.

◇Technical Assistance program starts with a visit to the Fort Stanwix Museum in Rome by Sheldon Keck, then director of the Conservation Center of New York University's Institute of Fine Arts.

◇1962-63

State Legislature extends life of the Council to 1967.

Annual budget appropriation: \$560,250

◇ Legislative amendment allows Council to accept funds from non-public sources. Out-of-state arts organizations made eligible for Council support to perform for New York audiences. ◇ Council survey of opera organizations results in formation of New York State Opera League "to encourage the production and promote the public interest in opera throughout the State of New York."

Council's Touring Program supports demonstration concerts for schoolchildren throughout the State to develop future audiences.

Special Projects begins with sponsorship of premiere performance of *Ieremiah* by the Tri-Cities Opera Workshop in Binghamton.

Roberson Memorial Center in Binghamton receives extended loan exhibition of Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and Medieval arts from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

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1963-64

Annual budget appropriation: \$534,219

Council holds advisory meetings with concert, dance, opera, and theatre professionals.

Touring Program reconstituted to pay fees of performing groups through local sponsors.

Traveling Exhibitions program expands to distribute exhibitions drawn from materials in the collections of museums throughout the State.

Aid to Composers Forum provides first support for creative artists.

◇ Grant to New Dramatists Committee supports workshop performances of unproduced plays.

Architecture Worth Saving in Onondaga County, under the direction of Harley J. McKee, the first book in a Council-sponsored conservation series, is published by Syracuse University Press.

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1964-65

Annual budget appropriation: \$562,335

◇ Council member terms of Cass Canfield, Mrs. W. Averell Harriman, Wallace K. Harrison, Richard B. K. McLanathan, Richard Rodgers, and Lewis A. Swyer expire. Governor Rockefeller appoints Mrs. Harmar Brereton, Mrs. David Levene, and Hale Woodruff as new Council members. John B. Hightower succeeds John H. MacFadyen as executive director of the Council. William Hull is appointed associate director.

New York State museum directors hold Council-sponsored advisory meeting on visual arts at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute in Utica.

Touring Program adds children's theatre presentations to its offerings.

Council creates American Dance Theatre as a permanent repertory company for modern dance, and works by Jose Limon, Anna Sokolow, Donald McKayle, and Doris Humphrey are performed.

Grant to Academy of American Poets supports readings in upstate colleges.

Grant enables Theater in the Street to tour ghetto areas of New York City.

Young Artists Program instituted in response to survey of opportunities for young soloists made by American Symphony Orchestra League.

Council exhibit of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century paintings of New York State (The River: Places and People, organized by Katharine Kuh) viewed by over 1,000 visitors a day at the New York World's Fair.

1965-66

Council is established as a permanent agency of New York State in response to bills introduced into the Legislature by State Senator Earl W. Brydges and Assemblyman Anthony J. Travia.

Annual budget appropriation: \$771,895

Council member Alfred J. Manuti dies. Council member terms of Reginald Alien and Helen Hayes expire. August Heckscher, Eric Larrabee, Frederick W. Richmond, Mrs. Richard Rodgers, Aline Saarinen, and Frank Stanton are appointed by Governor Rockefeller as new members.

Council holds meetings to seek solutions to problems of dance notation.

Council reviews effects of government support of the arts with artists' managers.

Council contributes to first Buffalo Festival of the Arts Today.

Council initiates Professional Educational Presentations in New York schools (later called Professionals Teach the Performing Arts).

Architecture Worth Saving in Rensselaer County, N.Y., written by Bernd Foerster and sponsored by the Council, is published by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as second book in the series on conservation.

Council recommends formation of the New York State Council on Architecture.

Council exhibit, The City: Places and People, organized by Katharine Kuh, is viewed by over 225,000 visitors to New York World's Fair.

Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (Title III) provides new funds for arts programs in the schools.

National Endowment for the Arts and National Council on the Arts established by U. S. Congress, making federal funds available to state arts councils.

1966-67

Annual budget appropriation: \$1,504,477

◇ National Council on the Arts grants Council \$50,000 for special programs.

Council member terms of Angus Duncan, Theodore M. Hancock, and David M. Keiser expire. Governor Rockefeller appoints Max L. Arons, Hy Faine, and Alwin Nikolais as new members. William Hull resigns as associate director to become director of Kentucky Council on the Arts.

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Council and staff meet for three day conference at Tarrytown to discuss long-range plans.

Seven artists (John Cage, Robert Creeley, Merce Cunningham, J. Wilhelm Kluver, Len Lye, Jack Tworkov, and Stanley VanDerBeek) tour colleges under Council sponsorship as Contemporary Voices in the Arts.

Council grant to the Esperanto Foundation provides for tour of avant-garde jazz musicians.

Council awards special funds for developing artistic talents of children in Harlem.

Council makes grant of National Council funds to the Eastman School of Music in Rochester to test applicability of violin teaching methods of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki.

Association of American Dance Companies holds seminar on dance management under Council sponsorship.

Museum Aid Program begins with special appropriation of \$600,000 from the Legislature.

Film Program launched by Council on basis of National Council on the Arts grant.

Council workshops in poetry, prose, and playwriting at St. Mark's in the Bowery provide basis for Poetry Program.

Council presents first New York State Awards to the Buffalo Festival of the Arts Today, Citizens Advisory Committee for the Town and Village of Cazenovia, The City of Binghamton, Corning Community College, Judson Memorial Church (New York City), Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, New York

<>Shakespeare Festival (New York City), The New York State Racing Association, St. James Community Center (New York City), The Stockade Association (Schenectady), and The Syracuse Savings Bank.

Following Council precedent, all fifty states and four territorial possessions have established arts agencies.

1967-68

Annual budget appropriation: \$1,897,585

National Council on the Arts grants Council \$39,383 for 5 special projects.

August Heckscher resigns from Council. Governor Rockefeller appoints Thomas P. F. Hoving to fill his place and reappoints Council members Seymour H. Knox, Henry Allen Moe, and Louis Clark Jones.

Council holds conferences on touring theatre, children's theatre, aid to museums, and festivals.

Traveling Exhibitions begins studies and experiments concerning exhibit structures and exhibits produced in multiple editions.

Council sponsors New York State tour of multimedia artists (Trisha Brown, Remy Charlip, Kenneth Dewey, Dick Higgins, Allan Kaprow, Les Levine, Nam June Paik, Terry Riley, Carolee Schneemann, Aldo Tambellini, and USCO) with National Council funds.

Council awards grant to Experiments in Art and Technology to foster liaison between artists and engineers.

Council grant to Jazz Interactions helps jazz musicians tour schools.

Council assists New York University in its sponsorship of The Drama Review (formerly Tulane Drama Review).

Studies on legislation affecting the arts, children's theatre, and ghetto arts initiated by new Council division (later called Program Development).

In cooperation with the State University of New York, Council sponsors residencies in dance, theatre, and music with National Council funds.

Council's Ghetto Arts Program begins. Urban Arts Corps is funded.

◇ Under Council sponsorship The Erie Maid visits thirty canal communities with exhibition entitled The Erie Canal: 1817-1967 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of beginning of Canal construction. The exhibition is viewed by 138,250 people.

State Education Department creates a Division of the Humanities and the Performing Arts to further creative arts programs in the schools.

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1968-69

Annual budget appropriation: \$2,491,861.

National Council on the Arts grants Council \$30,909 for special projects.

Governor Rockefeller reappoints Council member Mrs. David Levene.

Hudson River Troubadour, sponsored by Council, tours river communities to investigate and find expression for their common heritage.

Council grant to Daytop Village used for an exploratory conference on therapeutic use of arts among ex-narcotics addicts.

Council grant to Theatre for the Forgotten encourages rehabilitative program for prison inmates.

Council inaugurates studies of arts in prisons, crafts, jazz, and American Indian culture, and the need for arts administrators.

Council awards grant to foster increased participation by union members in community cultural life in Buffalo and New York City.

Special projects grants to Brooklyn Academy of Music and City Center of Music and Drama initiate resident seasons for modern dance in New York City.

Ghetto Arts Program provides funds for community theatre groups, offering opportunities for black artists to work in their communities.

Summer on Wheels, initiated by the Council, sends five mobile units in theatre, jazz, dance, puppetry, and film to eighteen upstate communities.

Council assists in publication of report on the first three years of the Binghamton Commission on Architecture and Urban Design.

Council provides financial support for and advises on publication of Exploring the Arts: A Handbook for Trade Union Program Planners.

Phyllis Yampolsky launches experimental project with Council support to encourage community awareness among teen-agers.

Harlem on My Mind mounted at the Metropolitan Museum of Art with Council assistance.

Special legislative appropriation launches Council's Festival Program.

Critic's Choice program begins with Sam Hunter as Critic of the Year in cooperation with State University of New York